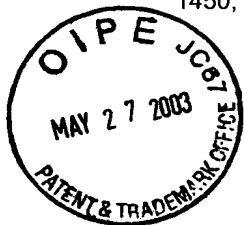


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Ruth Montaivo
Ruth Montaivo

JG-YY-5090/500569.20069

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yoshihiko MAKINO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/887,625

Group: 1634

Filed: June 22, 2001

Examiner: A.K. CHAKRABARTI

For: METHOD OF DETECTING NUCLEIC
ACIDS

Customer No.: 026418

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION

Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to respond to an Office Action mailed November 25, 2002. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$930.00 for this extension of time.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees required with this submission or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH, LLP

May 27, 2003

By: _____

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JEG:dej